



Certificate of Authorization Initial Application

Board of Examination and Registration of Architects

1 Capitol Hill, 3rd Fl., Providence, RI 02908

www.bdp.state.ri.us

Phone: (401) 222-2565 Fax: (401) 222-5744

Rhode Island General Laws

TITLE 5

Businesses and Professions

Architects, Chapter 1

5-1-15.1. Certificate of authorization for sole proprietorships, partnerships, limited liability partnerships, corporations or limited liability companies. - (a) A sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability partnership, corporation or limited liability company is admitted to practice architecture in this state if:

(1) Two-thirds (2/3) of the partners (if a partnership or limited liability partnership) two-thirds (2/3) of the directors and officers (or shareholders if there are no directors, if a corporation) or two-thirds (2/3) of the managers (or members if there are no managers, if a limited liability company) are registered under the laws of any state or any reciprocal jurisdiction as defined by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards to practice architecture or engineering;

(2) One-third (1/3) of the partners (if a partnership or limited liability partnership) or one-third (1/3) of the directors and officers (or shareholders if there are no directors, if a corporation), or one-third (1/3) of the managers (or members if there are no managers, if a limited liability company) are registered under the laws of any state or reciprocal jurisdiction as defined by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards to practice architecture; and

(3) The person having the practice of architecture in his or her charge is himself or herself a partner (if a partnership or limited liability partnership) a director or officer (or shareholders if there are no directors, if a corporation) or manager (or members if there are no managers, if a limited liability company) and registered to practice architecture in this state.

(b) The board is empowered to require any sole proprietorship, partnership, or limited liability partnership, corporation or limited liability company practicing architecture in this state to file information concerning its partners, shareholders, officers, directors, members, managers, and other aspects of its business organization, upon any forms that the board prescribes.

(c) The practice or offer to practice architecture as defined by this chapter by a sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability partnership, corporation, or limited liability company subsequently referred to as the "firm", through one or more architects registered under the provisions of this chapter, is permitted provided that the registered architect(s) are in direct control of the practice or exercise personal supervision of all personnel who act in behalf of the firm in professional and technical matters; and provided, further, that the firm has been issued a certificate of authorization by this board.

(d) Within one year after enactment of this chapter, every firm must obtain a certificate of authorization from this board, and those individuals in direct control of the practice or who exercise personal supervision of all personnel who act in behalf of the firm in professional and technical matters must be registered with the board. The certificate of authorization is issued by the board upon satisfaction of the provisions of this chapter and the payment of a fee as determined by the board in accordance with § 5-1-11. This fee is waived if the firm consists of only one person who is the registered architect. Every firm must file with the board an application for a certificate of authorization on a form provided by the board.

(e) Every certificate of authorization is valid for a period of two (2) years and expires on the last day of December of each even numbered year following its issuance. A separate form provided by the board is to be filed with each renewal of the certificate of authorization. The firm shall complete a renewal form within thirty (30) days of the time any information previously filed with the board has changed, is no longer true or valid, or has been revised for any reason. If, in its judgment, the information contained on the application and/or renewal form is satisfactory and complete, the board will issue a certificate of authorization for the firm to practice architecture in this state. The board may require all applicants for renewal to provide the board with information, including but not limited to, a brief outline setting forth the professional activities of any applicant during a period in which a certificate of authorization has lapsed and other evidence of the continued competence and good character of the applicant, all as the board deems necessary.



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INSTRUCTIONS FOR CORPORATIONS, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES and LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIPS

1. Complete the Certificate of Authorization (COA) application and mail to the Board with the initial application fee of \$100.00. If application is complete, it will be reviewed by the Board at its next scheduled meeting. The Board usually meets the third Wednesday of every month. **If you are the only employee in your firm, you are exempt from the fee.**
2. **If you are filing as a Corporation** you must also contact the RI Secretary of State's office at (401) 222-3040 and request the necessary paperwork to file as a corporation doing business in RI. (This qualifies a corporation to conduct business in RI). **Do not submit this paperwork until you receive the conditional approval letter from the Board.**
3. After review by the Board, you will be issued a conditional approval letter. At this time you may submit your completed paperwork to the Office of the RI Secretary of State. Along with this paperwork, you must also submit a **written request for a Certificate of Good Standing, the required fee, and a copy of the conditional approval letter from the Board.**
4. The RI Secretary of State Corporation Division will forward your Certificate of Good Standing to you. You must mail the **original certificate** to this office for completion of the application process.
5. Upon receipt of your Certificate of Good Standing, you will be issued a COA number and wall certificate. **Your Certificate of Authorization (COA) must be renewed biennially on the even numbered years. Renewal applications will be mailed at the appropriate time.**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTNERSHIPS and SOLE PROPRIETORSHIPS

1. Complete the Certificate of Authorization (COA) application, have it notarized and mail it to the Board with the initial application fee of \$100.00. When application is complete, it will be reviewed by the Board at its next scheduled meeting. The Board usually meets the third Wednesday of every month. **If you are the only employee in your firm, you are exempt from the fee.**
2. Upon Board acceptance, you will be issued a COA number and wall certificate. **Your Certificate of Authorization (COA) must be renewed biennially on the even numbered years. Renewal applications will be mailed at the appropriate time.**

For Office Use Only:

COA # _____

CHECK# _____



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Name under which services will be offered:

Name: _____

Address: _____

 City State Zip
 Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____

FEE: \$100.00 INITIAL APPLICATION
FEE WAIVED IF NO EMPLOYEES (Check Below)
 (Make check payable to: Treasurer, State of RI)

CHECK ALL BOXES THAT APPLY

FEE WAIVED - No Employees

Corporation

Sole Proprietorship

Partnership

Limited Liability Company

Limited Liability Partnership

PART I TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL APPLYING

List all Rhode Island licensed architects in responsible charge who act on behalf of the firm. (Provide attachment for additional names)

I hereby certify that I am familiar with and agree to comply with the Rhode Island laws and regulations governing the practice for which I am licensed.

****Name****Title in Firm** (Pres. V. Pres. or Sec./Treas.)**RI Lic. No.**

Number of Employees including self: _____

Have you or any partner, majority shareholder, member of the board of directors, officers, managers or members practiced, or solicited architectural work or represented their self as an architect in this State prior to having been licensed? **Yes** _____ **No** _____ If yes, please explain briefly.

Have you or any partner, majority shareholder, member of the board of directors, officers, managers or members been the subject of a formal or informal hearing or inquiry, complaint, or disciplinary action related to their license to practice architecture in any state since your last renewal?

Yes _____ **No** _____ If yes, please explain briefly and indicate the jurisdiction.**PART II TO BE COMPLETED ONLY IF APPLYING AS A CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, OR LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP** (Provide attachment for additional names)**** Name****** Position**

(Director, Member, Manager or Partner)

**** Title in Firm**

(Pres., V. Pres., or Sec./Treas.)

**** Profession**

****Provide the name of all directors, officers or shareholders (if there are no directors) if applying as a corporation; partners if applying as a partnership or limited liability partnership; managers or members if applying as a limited liability company. Two-thirds (2/3) of whom must be registered architects or engineers, and one third (1/3) of whom must be registered architects. The person having the practice of architecture in his or her charge is himself or herself a director, officer or shareholder if a corporation; a partner if a partnership or limited liability partnership; managers or members if a limited liability company and registered to practice architecture in this state.**

PART III TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL APPLYING

I am aware that the Certificate of Authorization may be revoked if any agent, employee, director or officer of the corporation violates or causes to be violated any provisions of those laws or regulations governing the practice of architecture in RI.

Signature of Applicant: _____

Title _____

Date: _____

Before me personally appeared the signer of the above and executed this application for the purposes stated by signing his/her name as the authorized director. In witness thereof: Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____.

County and State _____

Signed (Notary Public) _____

Date Commission Expires _____

Notary Seal _____